

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 09002 271429Z
ACTION CU-04

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UNCLAS BEIRUT 9002

FOR CU/CIES

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, LE
SUBJECT: FULBRIGHT-HAYS FOREIGN RESEARCH PROGRAM FOR LEBANON
FOR FY 1977

REF: (A) BEIRUT 3356 OF APRIL 6, (B) STATE 096213 OF
APRIL 21, 1976

1. IN ORDER TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY QUALIFIED PERSONS INTERESTED IN FOREIGN RESEARCH SCHOLAR GRANTS, POST WOULD APPRECIATE CU'S THOUGHTS ON FEASIBILITY OF CONTINUING PROGRAM FOR LEBANON IN 1977 AND 78.
2. WE HAVE IN MIND IN PARTICULAR CASE OF RAJA FARES HAJJAR, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY AT BEIRUT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (BUC). HE WAS ENDORSED BY BEIRUT SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR FY-74 AND WAS FY-76 PRINCIPAL CANDIDATE # 3. HAJJAR'S APPLICATION ALONG WITH TWO OTHERS WERE TRANSMITTED APRIL 13, 1976 FOR CONSIDERATION BU CU/CIES. REFTEL B PARA 3 INDICATED NO FUNDS WERE AVAILABLE, BUT ALSO SAID QUOTE IN VIEW STRONG CASE MADE FOR THESE GRANTS...WE WILL KEEP THEM UPPERMOST IN MIND FOR FUNDING AFTER END FY-76. UNQUOTE.
3. POST NOW WISHES RECOMMEND REACTIVATING HAJJAR'S APPLICATION FOR FY-77 PROGRAM. ALTHOUGH ELIGIBLE FOR SABBATICAL FOR 1976-77

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A/6, HAJJAR REMAINED IN BEIRUT DURING CRISIS AND CARRIED OUT FUNCTIONS AT BUC, AS WELL AS OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY WELFARE. LATELY HE HAS BEEN ASKED TO SERVE ON PLANNING COMMITTEE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES ASSOCIATION AS A CONSULTANT ON EDUCATIONAL PLANNING. HAJJAR'S SABBATICAL LEAVE FOR 1977-78 HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY APPROVED BY BUC. HE IS

MOST INTERESTED IN PURSUING ADVANCED RESEARCH ON INTERMOLECULAR FORCES AND POTENTIALS; ENVIRONMENT PHOTO-CHEMISTRY, AND/OR SOLAR ENERGY.

4. POST FULLY SUPPORTS HAJJAR'S APPLICATION, IN LIGHT OF HIS LONG-STANDING ELIGIBILITY AND RECENT COMMENDABLE EFFORTS TO SAVE EDUCATION IN BEIRUT. HAJJAR WILL SUBMIT ANY ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS NEEDED.

5. EARLY RESPONSE REQUESTED.
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